

HOUSE RESOLUTION 252
By Davis

A RESOLUTION to honor Representative Joe W. Bell for his
twenty years of outstanding service to
Tennessee as a member of the General
Assembly.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this body should honor those colleagues who during their tenure in the General Assembly have performed their elected duties with remarkable dexterity and unprecedented devotion, and whose professionalism and competence will serve as a benchmark for future legislators; and

WHEREAS, Representative Joe W. Bell has been a great presence on Capitol Hill for ten terms and twenty years as a member of the House of Representatives; his illustrious legislative career will come to an end at the adjournment sine die of the 1996 session of the Ninety-Ninth General Assembly as he answers the tantalizing call of retirement; and

WHEREAS, beginning his meritorious service in the House of Representatives in 1979, Joe Bell has distinguished himself as a highly respected leader and an effective public servant; and

WHEREAS, as a senior member of the House, Representative Bell has been an astute and eager participant in the legislative process as a member of the Committees on Education, Transportation and State and Local Government; and

WHEREAS, Joe Bell also enjoyed a meritorious tenure as the Assistant Majority Floor Leader, and he served with distinction as the Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee for three years; and

WHEREAS, serving the good people of Wilson and Trousdale Counties and the City of Lebanon with the utmost integrity and probity, Representative Bell has been the distinguished recipient of several awards for his proficient legislative service; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Lebanon and Wilson County, Joe Bell is “a son of the soil” who truly understands the special interests and needs of farmers and the agricultural industry; and

WHEREAS, he is a devoted member of the Wilson County Farm Bureau and the Wilson County Livestock Association; and

WHEREAS, ever one to shoulder the mantle of civic responsibility, Representative Bell is a generous and concerned member of his community, and he has made significant contributions to many civic, religious and charitable organizations, including the West Wilson County Chamber of Commerce, Hartsville-Trousdale County Chamber of Commerce, Lebanon-Wilson County Chamber of Commerce, Carroll Community Club, Lebanon Exchange Club, Tennessee State Employees Association and Jaycees International, which he has served ably as senator; and

WHEREAS, an astute and dedicated member of the Special Joint Committee on Veterans Affairs and the American Legion, Representative Bell has proven himself to be a true friend and supporter of veterans, and has been a stalwart proponent of legislation addressing the special needs of these brave men and women; and

WHEREAS, a devout Christian, Joe Bell evinces his robust faith in the Lord through his membership in the College Street Church of Christ; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments and accolades aside, he is most appreciative of the love and companionship he shares with his wife of 32 years, Jennifer Brewington Bell, and their son; and

WHEREAS, the 46th House District has been well represented by this prominent legislator as he served in every capacity with acumen, industry and humanity; and

WHEREAS, Representative Bell will be long remembered as an advocate and crusader for good, responsive government and the concerns of working people; and

WHEREAS, for twenty years, Representative Joe Bell has been a staple figure on Capitol Hill; he is a gentleman whose talent and energy will seldom be equaled and, without question, he will be greatly missed; and

WHEREAS, it is now highly appropriate that the friends and colleagues of this outstanding public servant should honor him and recognize his numerous accomplishments and contributions to our great state; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Representative Joe W. Bell for his innumerable services to Tennessee, and we honor him for his distinguished career as a member of this General Assembly.

BE TO FURTHER RESOLVED, That we extend to Representative Bell our best wishes for every continued success and happiness in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.